

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Status of the Claims

New claims 20-51 are presented for consideration in lieu of claims 1-19, which have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51 are independent. Support for these claims can be found in the original application, as filed. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Requested Action

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection and rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 7 were objected to as informal. The Examiner objected to various terms recited in these claims. Since claims 1 and 7 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, this objection has become moot. The Examiner's comments were taken into consideration when presenting new claims 20-51.

Substantive Claim Rejections

Claims 4, 9, 14 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. These rejections are respectfully traversed. Since claims 1-19 have been canceled, these rejections have become moot. The Examiner's comments were taken into consideration when presenting new claims 20-51.

Claims 1-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication Application No. 2004/0201727 to Ichikawa et al. in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0084085 to Breidenbach et al.

Response to Substantive Claim Rejection

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited art, whether taken individually or in combination, neither teaches nor suggests features of the present invention previously recited in claims 1-19. Therefore, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Ichikawa et al. publication merely discloses outputting image data and correction information for correcting that image data. However, according to the Ichikawa et al. publication, the image data and correction information must be described in one file in which the correction information is described using Tags. Hence, since the Ichikawa et al. publication neither teaches nor suggests generating a data file independent of an image file, the Ichikawa et al. publication certainly cannot output any correction information to an external device before outputting the image data.

The secondary teachings in the Breidenbach et al. publication also fails to teach or suggest anything about generating a data file independently from the image file.

All of newly presented claims 20-51 emphasize the feature of a data file for image correction being transmitted from an image sensing apparatus to a printing apparatus, before an image file is transmitted.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the present invention, as recited in independent claims 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51, is patentably defined over the cited art.

Dependent claims 21-24, 31-34, 36-39, 41-44, and 46-49 also should be deemed allowable, in their own right, for defining other patentable features of the present invention in

addition to those recited in their respective independent claims. Further individual consideration of these dependent claims is requested.

Applicants submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Applicants request favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the objection and rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action and an early Notice of Allowance.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Warren E. Olsen/
Attorney for Applicants
Warren E. Olsen
Registration No. 27,290

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

FCHS_WS 1887641_1